

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 18, with the following rewritten paragraph:

For example, as shown FIG. 3, the raw material containing the silicon carbide particles, water, and the like is kneaded by a mixer 21, pressed into a die portion 23 ~~by a~~ by an extruder 22, and then extruded from the die portion 23 into a molded body 24.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 9, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Furthermore, preferably, the proportion of particles with a particle diameter of not less than half the honeycomb rib thickness is not more than 5 wt%. When the proportion of particles with a particle diameter of not less than half the honeycomb rib thickness (that is, ~~silt~~ slit width) is more than 5 wt%, the powder of the raw material clogs the slit, and causing many defects such as fractures and small holes in the honeycomb ribs.